

## NEGROES IN COUNCIL.

(Continued from first page.)

Freedmen's Society and Social Educational Society. He said he believed the colored race had reached the most critical point in its history. It had come to an era of untried responsibilities, when calm and deliberate judgment would be necessary, to a full appreciation of the race.

Bishop Alexander Walters discussed boldly and intelligently the various questions of direct interest to the colored race.

"It is evident to the thoughtful among us," he said, "that we are passing through one of our most critical periods of existence in this country. The race is now facing the question of its complete civil and political rights, and from the struggle it dares not retreat. People are prejudiced and sensitive on the Negro question, and while there is nothing to be done but to stand for principle, it should be done in a manly, courteous spirit and not in a spirit of strife."



COL. W. A. PLEDGER.

"The colored race pleaded for its constitutional rights because it believed the gift of suffrage is not a natural and an inherited right, but a conferred right, and when it had once been conferred by the Federal Government it should be inviolable. The powers of the Federal Government were not conferred by a single state, but by all the states, therefore the general government, through Congress could enforce the provisions of the constitution. The Federal Government, when it can but refuses to protect its citizens, is guilty of gross neglect."

With regard to politics, Bishop Walters said: "I have no sympathy with that class of leaders who are advising the Negro to voluntarily eschew politics in deference to color prejudice. Certainly I would not have them all meddle with politics and such has never been the case, but since politics is a legitimate, profitable, and in some respects, honorable business, why should not the black brother, who is beginning to pay taxes, have a share in the offices and emoluments?"

"The Negro is not to be eliminated because he is not as intelligent as some other people in this country, not because he is not a tax payer, not because he is not improving in his morals, but because he is black and was once a slave, and is therefore despised. The alien races of the world may come here, who are unacquainted with our institutions; and more ignorant than the Negroes, and ere they become enlightened, are allowed to vote. And why? Because their skin is white. But the loyal Negro who has helped to make the country what it is and fought in every war to save it, must be disfranchised because somebody does not like him. This is not only unjust and unchristian, but is base ingratitude."

"Some of us have signified to the democratic party our willingness to unite with it anywhere and whenever it will make it advantageous to our cause to do so. Since we have taken the initiative it is for it to say whether it desires our votes by a consideration in the way of just legislation and kind treatment. Until this is done, I do not see how we can consistently help it into national power—and I for one will not do so."

Despite the admonitions of Bishop Walters, the debate following the brief address of Judson W. Lyons, of Georgia, Register of the Treasury, finally degenerated into a hot political outburst, especially on the part of C. N. Crews and T. E. Woods, of Missouri; Col. Lewis, of New Orleans, W. E. Henderson of Indianapolis, John P. Green of Ohio, and several others, in which glorification of the republican and damnation of the democratic parties were dealt out in equal doses.

Mr. Lyons, after denouncing the recent disfranchisement constitutional amendment adopted in North Carolina and those of other southern states as worse attempts at nullification than that of the southern states in 1860 and 1861, urged that the practical thing for the Afro-American to do would be to go to the republican party in Congress and demand a reduction of the representation in those states of the South which had ignored the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments of the Federal Constitution in placing on their statute books laws disfranchising the Negro.

T. Thomas Fortune, of New York, who had stepped up to the rostrum to speak to Bishop Walters, was asked by the presiding officer to speak, and C. N. Crews, the big Missourian, at once objected to Mr. Fortune speaking except down on the floor among the other delegates.

Then Fortune scored Crews and others who, he intimated, were actuated more by political regard for the elevation of Afro-American citizenship. Fortune said he had worked for ten years for the benefit of the movement when some others were skulking in their tents.

Delegate Crosthwaite, of Tennessee, urged that the political rights which had come to the American Negro had drifted to him on the ocean of public opinion; that he was not indebted to any political party for them, and that the Negro has been reading history wrong if he is imbued with any other idea. The issue would never have risen if the labor of the South had not begun to enslave the labor of the North.

J. Milton Turner, of St. Louis, dispassionately urged that instead of indulging in personalities and abuse the delegates had better get together and attempt to formulate some comforting message to send abroad into the homes of the colored people all over the country.



CYRUS FIELD ADAMS.

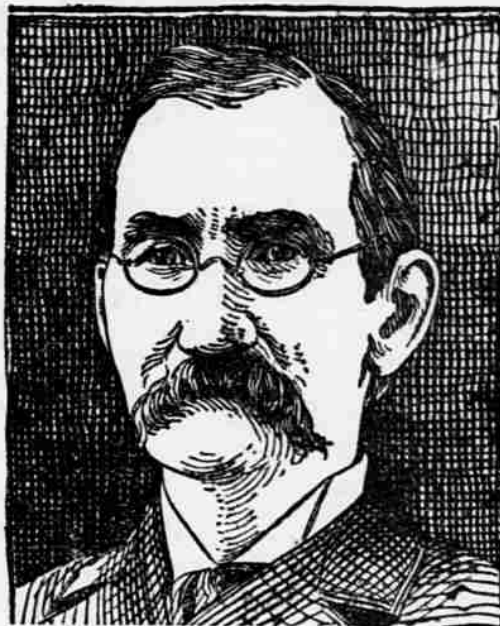
A disturbance arose over the report of the Legislative committee, written by Daniel Murray, of Washington, D. C. The objections to the report were based principally upon its references to the alleged hatred of the Negro in the South by their white brothers. At the conclusion of the reading of the report a score of delegates were on their feet, clamoring for recognition. R. R. Wright was recognized by the chair, who denounced the written statements of Mr. Murray as a pack of falsehoods and showed dense ignorance on the part of the writer. The report recommends that the race, in states that have discriminating laws, refuse to ride on railroads or engage in any form of diversion in which they are subjects of discrimination. This boycotting plan seemed to meet the approval of the body.

President Walters, to end the discussion, referred the report back to the committee, and began reading a list of names of prominent men whom he had invited to address the council.

## SYSTEMIC CATARRH.

Thousands Suffer From It and Do Not Know It.

Hon. A. T. Wimberly, Collector of the Port of New Orleans, La., and member of the National Republican Committee, in writing of Pe-ru-na, says:



Hon. A. T. Wimberly,

\*Pe-ru-na Drug Mfg Co., Columbus, O.:

"Gentlemen—I have used Pe-ru-na and can gladly recommend it as being all you represent. I wish that every man who is in need of a good tonic could know of it. I would advise all such to take it now, and am sure it would never be regretted."

A. T. Wimberly.

Pe-ru-na is an internal remedy—a scientific remedy for catarrh. It cures catarrh wherever located. Its cures last. Pe-ru-na gives strength by stopping waste. By saving the mucus it enriches the blood. By cleansing the mucous membranes it preserves the vital forces.

A constant drain of mucus from the system is known as systemic catarrh. This may occur from any organ of the body. Systemic catarrh is more common in spring and summer than in the winter.

Dr. Rachel A. Magaw, 67 West Jefferson Street, Springfield, Ohio: "Your Pe-ru-na is worth its weight in gold. I feel like a new woman. I can't praise it enough. I spent a great deal of money on doctors, but nothing ever did me any good until I sent to you and tried your Pe-ru-na. I now feel well of the catarrh."

Ralph W. Chulip, of La Porte, Ind., says the following as regards Pe-ru-na for catarrh: "I had been troubled with catarrh for the past eight years. I became so bad a year and a half ago that I took treatment from two different specialists on catarrh. The discharge from my head was dreadful. Finally my stomach became affected, and eight months ago I had to quit work. I lost in weight from 165 pounds to 140. I was completely discouraged. I procured a bottle of Pe-ru-na and had not taken half the bottle, when, to my joy and surprise, I began feeling better. My head began to get better; the discharge began to dry up. I kept on, and have now taken two bottles. I have resumed my work, have a good appetite, and have not felt better in ten years. I am now 30, and I thank Pe-ru-na for the way I feel to-day."

For free book address Dr. Hartman, Columbus, Ohio.



## AFTERNOON SESSION.

Gen. John Coburn was the guest of honor at the session Wednesday afternoon. President Walters personally invited him to the platform and in his introductory remarks said that General Coburn was "one of the best friends the Negro had in America," which was seconded by A. E. Manning, of Indiana, who furnished reasons in support of its truth. Gen. Coburn congratulated the Council upon the commendable spirit of their deliberations in the face of the indignities heaped upon the race. He urged them to consult together as to the best mode by which their full rights may be obtained. His address was well received and was frequently applauded. Among the other speakers were Rev. J. J. Blackshear and Prof. H. T. Kealing. Prof. Kealing proved himself to be an orator of great force and a profound and logical thinker. Bishop C. R. Harris, of Salisbury, N. C., next read a paper on "Immigration" for which he received the thanks of the Council. The remainder of the afternoon was devoted to ten minute speeches by members of the council.

The resolution committee submitted its report, in support of which speeches were made by John O. Dancy, L. M. Hagood, R. O. Ransom and Gurley Brewer. A motion was made for an hour's discussion before adoption, but was lost, and the meeting adjourned until Thursday morning, at which time the resolutions were discussed.

At the opening of the session Thursday afternoon, the following officers were elected:

President, Bishop Alexander Walters of New Jersey; Vice-presidents, T. T. Fortune of New York; W. A. Pledger, of Georgia; Ernest Lyons of Maryland; Harry C. Smith, of Ohio; O. M. Woods of Missouri; Col. M. Marshall, of Illinois; Bishop G. W. Clinton, of North Carolina; W. H. Stewart of Kentucky; Mrs. Lillian Thomas-Fox, of Indiana; Secretary, Cyrus Field Adams, of Illinois; Financial Secretary, J. Frank Riagburn, of Iowa; Treasurer, J. W. Thompson of New York; National Organizer, Mrs. Ida Wells-Barnett of Illinois; Corresponding Secretary, Dr. I. B. Scott, of Louisiana; Sergeant at Arms, J. W. Wheeler, of Missouri; Chaplain, Rev. J. S. Caldwell, of Pennsylvania; Asst. Cor. Sec., Elias Harris, of Missouri.

Directors of Bureaus—Education, W. C. Jason, of Delaware; Legislative, F. L. McGhee, of Minnesota; Ecclesiastical, Rev. J. W. Alexander, of New York; Business, W. E. B. Dubois, of Georgia; Literary, Dr. M. C. B. Mason, of Ohio; Newspaper, A. L. Manly, of Washington, D. C.; Emigration, Rev. J. R. Seabrook, of Oregon; Lynching, John Mitchell of Virginia.

The most heated discussion of Thursday's session was over a resolution endorsing the President's public utterances on lynching, which was adopted. A short session was held Thursday evening, after which the delegates repaired to Tomlinson Hall where a banquet was given in honor of the distinguished visitors. Dr. J. H. Ward of Indiana, was toast master, and quite a number of toasts were responded to by the "strangers within our gates."

The last session of the Council was held Friday afternoon, at which time Prof. Booker T. Washington delivered an eloquent address. He was greeted by a very large audience, who listened with breathless silence throughout his address. At the conclusion of Prof. Washington's address the council adjourned sine die.

## A Gem From The Council.

Looking at it from this point of view, we should be unfaithful to the trust committed to us if we do not warn the race against the danger of supporting any man or party North or South, who is opposed to the full and free exercise of the elective franchise under the provisions of the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the Constitution.—Excerpt from address of Afro-American Council, adopted at Indianapolis, Ind., Aug 30, 1900.

This means that the only party, in the wisdom of that body, for whom the colored man can safely vote is the party of Lincoln and Grant, of Douglass and Sumner—the grand old Republican party as now led by William McKinley and his brilliant running mate—Colonel Roosevelt.

Mrs. Priscilla Jones of 1831 14th street went to Richmond this week to remain ten days.